

## WASHINGTON.

## SYNOPSIS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

## AN ABLE DOCUMENT.

Abstract of the Reports of the Secretaries of War and the Interior, and the Commissioner of Customs.

## IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS.

## The Legislation of the Coming Session.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

etc., etc., etc.

(Special Telegraphic Correspondence of the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

## BUSINESS OF THE PRESENT SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The arrivals of Senator and Representative members of the lobby, are numerous to-day, and every thing gives evidence of a busy session. There will be to consider the finance and negro suffrage questions, the tariff and tax bills, and the question of protection to our naturalized citizens.

## FUGITIVE PRISONERS.

Mr. Robinson of New York, will bring before the House at the earliest day practicable the cases of the Fenians Costello and Warren, now under sentence in Irish prisons.

## ALABAMA.

There is another proposition that will come before the Senate, namely: the Alabama claims. Hon. Beverly Johnson, with his hobbings with the English gentry, does not represent the Radical portion of our people, and he has been instrumental in getting the Radical Congressmen. A prominent New York Representative (Radical) to-night, said he considered we had done our duty by negotiating with England on the subject; that we ought to draft the situation as it is, and consider the time when by that government in the Alabama claims as an authoritative precedent and then when war should ensue we could rely on their commerce and restore the equilibrium of favors, paying back what we received. Notwith-

standing it was fifty or sixty million dollars in his opinion we could not settle a wrong which would be felt in our commerce for a quarter of a century. At the proper time Ireland would strike the blow, and the American government would grant her the eight of governments, and the ocean would swarm with privates fitted out in American ports.

## LEGISLATION.

The point discussed among Democrats is that the Radicals ought to take the initiative in legislation, particularly as relates to the repeal of the tenures of office bill and other abominations that party have foisted on the country.

## CONGRESS.

There will be a quorum of both Houses present to-morrow. The only business will be to organize and appoint a joint committee to wait on the President and inform him that Congress is ready for business.

## THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The Secretary of the Treasury's report, which an enterprising watch printed in the Treasury Department in defiance of McCulloch's orders, will be printed in a Philadelphia paper to-morrow. It was offered to sale here to gentlemen of the press for one thousand dollars.

## AN ASPIRANT.

Hon. J. A. Garret, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, will press for Secretary of the Treasury, his friends claiming him to be a representative of the great interests of the country.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Secretary Schofield, in his annual report, says the strength of the army on September 20th was 100,000, which, he says, will be reduced to 80,000 by the end of the year. The number of the mustered-in volunteers will be reduced to about 60,000. No recruiting is in operation except for the cavalry service. All volunteer officers except one have been mustered out of service. At the suggestion of General Sherman, the War Department, on the 6th of October, for the wants of one regiment of volunteer cavalry from Kansas, whose service is not expected to exceed six months, has recommended that they shall constitute an additional department, to be represented by an additional Cabinet officer. The latter proposition does not meet with much favor.

## PROGRESSING.

An additional article of the treaty of commerce and navigation between Russia and the United States has been signed by the respective ministers, and the same will be submitted to the Senate. The ratification of the same will be delayed until after the expiration of the session of Congress.

The President has been urged by influential persons to recommend to Congress the consolidation of three bureaus into one department, namely, the Agricultural, Educational, and Statistical Bureau, and the Bureau of Fisheries, which should be embraced in the Interior Department, others recommended that they shall constitute an additional department, to be represented by an additional Cabinet officer. The latter proposition does not meet with much favor.

## STAMPS FOR DISTILLED SPIRITS.

Several applications have been made to the Postmaster General from Collectors of Internal Revenue for stamps in favor of the distilled spirits and tobacco, prescribed by the new revenue act. These stamps being charged to collectors as money, it is proposed to have them issued to the distilled spirit dealers or drawers. It is probable that the Commissioner will be requested to issue a regulation to the effect that the revenue stamp on distilled spirits and tobacco should be affixed to the distilled spirit dealers or drawers.

The Secretary has expressed so fully his views upon the only great subject—fiscal, that it may be necessary for him to take up the same again.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The following is the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury:

DEPARTMENT, Dec. 1, 1868.—In compliance with the requirements of law, I have the honor to transmit to Congress the following report.

In the former communication of the Secretary, he has recommended to Congress for an appropriation for that purpose, the necessities for the safe-keeping of the stamps being issued to the distilled spirit dealers.

The term of enlistment, he says, ought to be increased to two years.

The disbursements of the pay department during the last few years amount to sixty millions. The disbursements for reconstruction have been two millions and a half. Bounties for the wants of one regiment of volunteer cavalry from Kansas, whose service is not expected to exceed six months, have been recommended to the Interior Department, others recommended that they shall constitute an additional department, to be represented by an additional Cabinet officer. The latter proposition does not meet with much favor.

## THE SOUTH.

It is agreed that the South, in its present condition, is in a favorable position to make a stand for its independence, and the negotiations of the British Government, and the preparation of the Southern Confederacy to be ready when the time comes.

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